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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/562,411	03/19/2007	Vikram Swamy	1842.019US1	6080
70648	7590	11/17/2008	EXAMINER	
SCHWEGMAN, LUNDBERG & WOESSNER/WMS GAMING P.O. BOX 2938 MINNEAPOLIS, MN 55402				LIM, SENG HENG
ART UNIT		PAPER NUMBER		
3714				
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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/562,411	SWAMY ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	SENG H. LIM	3714	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 12 August 2008.
 2a) This action is **FINAL**. 2b) This action is non-final.
 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) Claim(s) 1-5, 7-27 and 29-44 is/are pending in the application.
 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
 6) Claim(s) 1-5, 7-27 and 29-44 is/are rejected.
 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
 10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)	4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)	Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ .
3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)	5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application
Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>8/12/08</u> .	6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ .

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Amendment

This office action is in response to the amendment filed on 8/12/08 in which applicant amends claims 1 & 23; cancelled claims 6 & 28; and responds to the claim rejections. Claims 1-5, 7-27 & 29-44 are pending.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

Claims 3-5, 8, 25-27, 30 & 44 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. Web service protocols are subject to change over time without notice and are therefore not definite.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1-5, 7, 9-12, 22-27, 29, 31-40 & 43 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Gatto et al (US 6,916,247 B2).

Re claim 1, 22, 23 & 43. Gatto et al discloses a gaming network system and method for providing a cashless gaming service in a gaming network including gaming machines (10:47-54), comprising sending service information for a service from the gaming service (specialized device) to a discovery agent (server, 112) on the gaming

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network (Fig. 19 & 20, 14:11-33) wherein the cashless gaming service provides electronic funds transfer for one or more of a plurality of gaming machines on the gaming network (i.e. from player charge accounts or using some form of electronic money) (10:47-54), wherein in response to a wager at a gaming machine of the plurality of gaming machines the gaming machine depicts indicia representative of a randomly selected outcome of a wagering game (i.e. with the RNG, Fig. 10); determining by the discovery agent if the cashless gaming service is authentic and authorized using an authentication engine (10:55-62); in response to determining that the cashless gaming service is authentic and authorized, publishing the service information to a service repository to make the cashless gaming service available on the gaming network (i.e. broadcast availability to server) (Fig. 19; 13:64-67); receiving by the discovery agent a discovery request for the location of the cashless gaming service from a gaming client on a gaming machine of the plurality of gaming machines (i.e. bind to device) (Fig. 19; 13:64-14:2) and using the service information for the cashless gaming service to register the gaming client with the cashless gaming service (i.e. the specialized device sends asynchronous notifications packets to the central server and registering the specialized device with the server, hence would include a form of request for the location of the specialized device or gaming client) (14:13-20); verifying that the gaming client is authorized to utilize the cashless gaming service with the use of an authentication engine (10:55-62) to process a service requests between the gaming client and the cashless gaming service, said service requests conforming to an internetworking protocol (14:2-8).

Re claim 2-5 & 24-27. The cashless gaming service comprises a web service, wherein the service request is formatted according to a service description language such as a Web Services Description Language (WSDL) and the cashless gaming service is registered in a UDDI registry (15:49-54).

Re claim 7 & 29. The gaming client comprises a service provider (16:8-11).

Re claim 9-12 & 31-34. The service request comprises a request to establish or register a new account, to modify details for an account, to close an account and to provide details for an account (14:19-27).

Re claim 13, 18-19, 35 & 40. The service request comprises a request to obtain an account balance and to withdraw funds from an account as a playable credit on a gaming machine (10:47-54).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the examiner presumes that the subject matter of

the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein were made absent any evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was not commonly owned at the time a later invention was made in order for the examiner to consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103(c) and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(e), (f) or (g) prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

Claims 8, 14, 30 & 36 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Gatto et al (US 6,916,247 B2) as applied to claims 1 & 23.

Re claim 8 & 30. Gatto et al discloses the service request using “Web Services” and offer a universal solution over the Internet using XML, SOAP, WSDL and UDDI but does not expressly disclose the service request comprising an HTTP request encapsulating an OFX message; however, a person of ordinary skill in the art would recognize the equivalence of HTTP to a Web Services over the Internet.

Re claim 14 & 36. Gatto et al does not disclose the service request comprises a request to obtain a list of transactions associated with an account; however the system does includes a transaction engine (842) which is capable keeping a list of transactions associated with an account. Hence would be obvious to include a request to obtain a list of transactions associated with an account as one of the service request.

Claims 15-17 & 37-39 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Gatto et al (US 6,916,247 B2) as applied to claims 1 & 23 in view of Letovsky et al (US 2002/0147047 A1).

Gatto et al teaches the invention substantially as claimed, but does not expressly disclose the service request comprising a request to deposit or electronically transfer funds into or from an external account into the account and obtaining authorization prior to electronically transferring funds. Letovsky et al discloses the service request comprising a request to deposit or electronically transfer funds into or from an external account into the account [0072] and obtaining authorization prior to electronically transferring funds [0073]. Gatto et al and Letovsky et al are analogous art because they are from the same field of endeavor of providing cashless gaming services. At the time of invention a person of ordinary skill in the art would have found it obvious to connect an external account into the player's account to electronically transfer more funds into the player's account in order to give the player an opportunity to wager more money on the game.

Claims 20-21 & 41-42 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Gatto et al (US 6,916,247 B2) as applied to claims 1 & 23 in view of Oberberger et al (US 2002/0077178 A1).

Gatto et al teaches the invention substantially as claimed, but does not disclose depositing or withdrawing promotion credits into and from an account. Oberberger et al discloses depositing or withdrawing promotion credits into and from an account [0079].

Gatto et al and Oberberger et al are analogous art because they are from the same field of endeavor of providing cashless gaming services. At the time of invention a person of ordinary skill in the art would have found it obvious to allow a player to use promotional credits as a form of funding for the game and would have motivated to do so to attract players to the game by offering them a chance to play the game for free.

Claim 44 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Gatto et al (US 6,916,247 B2) as applied to claim 43 taken with Bowman-Amuah (US 6,289,382 B1).

Gatto et al teaches the invention substantially as claimed, but does not discloses the protocol of the authentication service to include LDAP (Lightweight Directory Access Protocol); however using a LDAP protocol for an authentication or security purpose is well known in the art as evidence by Bowman-Amuah (63:21-30). It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to use LDAP protocol since it was known in the art that LDAP is a standard protocol for accessing and updating directory information in a client/server environment and LDAP has evolved into an emerging standard for directory replication for the Internet.

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Please see attached USPTO form PTO-892.

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments with respect to claim 8/12/08 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Correspondence

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Seng H. Lim whose telephone number is 571-270-3301.

The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30-6:00, Monday-Friday, alternate Fridays off.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Peter Vo can be reached on 571-272-4690. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Seng H Lim/

Examiner, Art Unit 3714

/Corbett Coburn/
Primary Examiner
AU 3714